



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

1938 RANGE CONSERVATION PROGRAM  
SOUTHERN REGION BULLETIN 252

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE STATE COMMITTEE, COUNTY COMMITTEE, AND RANGE INSPECTORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE 1938 RANGE CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

(Applicable only to Oklahoma and Texas)

**SECTION I. Informational meetings.**—Immediately following district meetings scheduled by the State Administrative Officer in cooperation with the State Extension Service, for county agents, county committeemen and ranch operators, which are to be held throughout Oklahoma and Texas, the county agent of each county shall call a meeting of the ranch operators of the county, at which time the 1938 Range Conservation Program for the Southern Region will be explained. After such explanation ranch operators will be given the opportunity to sign a Form SR-251, "Application for Determination of Grazing Capacity" (hereinafter referred to as Form 251).

**SEC. II. Range inspectors.**—The county committee of each county in which a number of ranch operators submit Forms 251 shall appoint (or reappoint if the person(s) who served as range inspector(s) in 1937 were satisfactory and are now available), subject to the approval of the State committee, one or more range inspectors who, in the judgment of the county committee, are qualified to serve in such capacity. The person(s) so appointed should be entirely familiar with ranching conditions in the county, including the average grazing capacity of the county, the relative grazing capacity as between various ranches, and the annual climatic fluctuations in the county, and should be able to devote part of their time to the administration of the program throughout the year.

Immediately following the appointment of the range inspectors, the State Administrative Officer, in cooperation with the State Extension Service, will arrange for district meetings for the purpose of instructing county agents, county committeemen, and range inspectors in making range inspections and in filling out Form SR-252, "Report on Examination of Range Land" (hereinafter referred to as Form 252).

These district meetings will be scheduled so that representatives of the Southern Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the State committee, and representatives of the State Experiment Stations and other State or Federal agricultural agencies may be present.

**SEC. III. Examination of the ranch by the range inspector.**—The examination of the ranch by the range inspector shall be in accordance with the instructions herein set out. Form 252 shall be prepared by the range inspector in cooperation with the operator of the ranch. This report shall be prepared in triplicate and shall show

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the State and county code and ranch serial number, names of the State and county, the name(s) of the operator(s), the legal description of the ranch, the name of the ranch, the number of acres in the ranch, and the total number of acres of range land exclusive of any farm land in the ranch.

Under section I, "Condition of Range", the range inspector will indicate in line 1: (a) the principal varieties of grasses and percent of the range covered by each grass, (b) the palatable plants and shrubs on the range, the principal varieties and percent of range covered by each, (c) the range-destroying weeds, the principal varieties and percent of the range covered by all; in line 2 the density of all vegetation on the range and the percent palatable; in line 3 the present condition of the range as to the stand of vegetation, any over-grazing, whether the vegetation is drought-affected, and condition as to erosion; in line 4 the range inspector's estimate of the amount of rainfall for 1935, 1936, and 1937 and the normal rainfall on the ranch; in line 5 the type of the range; in line 6 the nature of the land; in line 7 the name of any poisonous weeds in order of their density, the percent of range infested by each, and the number and kind of livestock killed by poisonous weeds on the ranch in 1938 up to the date of the report and the number and kind so killed in the calendar years 1935, 1936, and 1937; and in line 8 the kinds of rodents in order of their numbers and percent of range infested by each.

Under section II, "Number of Livestock and Grazing Capacity", the range inspector shall indicate in lines 9, 10, 11, and 12 in column (B), the number of the various kinds of livestock now grazed on the ranch on a 12-month basis, and in line 13, column (B), the total in terms of animal units as defined in Southern Region Bulletin 251. The entry in line 14, column (B), shall be determined by dividing the total number of acres of range land in the ranch by the number of animal units in line 13, column (B). The figures entered in column (C) shall be the same as the corresponding figures on Form SR-152 for the ranch, unless there are justifiable reasons for changing them. For a ranch for which a Form SR-152 was not executed in 1937, the range inspector and the ranch operator shall jointly determine the entries for lines 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, column (C). The entry in line 14, column (C), shall be determined by dividing the total number of acres of range land in the ranch by the number of animal units in line 13, column (C).

The figures in line 15, columns (E) and (F), for a ranch which was inspected in 1937 should be the same as those computed on the basis of the range examination by the range inspector in 1937 unless there is evidence that such figures are not in line with similar figures for other ranches in the same county or area. In the case of a ranch inspected for the first time in 1938, the figures entered in line 15, columns (E) and (F), should be those computed by the range inspector on the basis of the examination of the ranch in 1938. If a grazing capacity was established for the ranch in 1937, no detailed inspection for the purpose of determining the grazing capacity will be required in 1938 unless such an inspection has been requested by the ranch operator or is deemed necessary by the county committee, State committee, or the Director of the Southern Division.

The range inspector, in making his recommendation of grazing capacity in line 16, columns (E) and (F), shall take into considera-



tion the entries in line 15 and all other data on Form 252, giving particular attention to the use of the ranch, the number of livestock that have been normally carried on the ranch, the normal annual rainfall for the ranch and for the area in which it is located, and whether any range depletion from the standpoint of lack of vegetative cover, or encroachment of range-destroying plants or weeds, has been caused by drought or by over-grazing, and, if the ranch was inspected in connection with the 1937 program, he shall also take into consideration the grazing capacity established for the ranch for 1937.

In section III of Form 252 the range inspector will enter in column (B) the amount of practices in terms of acres or other units now existing on the ranch which were carried out prior to January 1, 1938, and in column (C) he will enter his recommendation, after consultation with the operator, of the practices to be carried out in 1938. In column (D) the range inspector will enter the amount of practices requested for 1938 by the operator, whether the same or different from those entered in column (C).

The degree of infestation of each of the destructive trees or plants will be determined by judging the density of the growth of each and grading in accordance with the percentage of the ground covered by the total spread of such trees or plants, as estimated by the range inspector. In order to make an accurate estimate as to the percentage of coverage of such trees or plants, the range inspector should step off a fairly representative twentieth or tenth of an acre of the infested acreage and measure the ground covered by all such trees or plants that are on the acreage and determine the percentage of coverage on such plot or plots, and use this percentage as the basis for arriving at the percentage of the entire infested acreage.

The certificate of the range inspector and the certification and application by the operator in section IV of Form 252 should be executed at the time of the range inspector's visit to the ranch.

A map of the ranch should be drawn on the blank provided in section V, showing the location of the various parts of the ranch, the location of headquarters, fences, wells, lakes, tanks, springs, streams, existing range-building practices carried out prior to January 1, 1938, and the location and extent of such practices as will be carried out in 1938. The map need not be drawn to exact scale, but should be readily understandable and sufficiently definite to convey an accurate statement of such facts. Whenever possible the entire map of the ranch should be drawn on one Form 252.

**SEC. IV. Establishment of grazing capacity and approval of practices.**—Based upon the information entered by the range inspector in Form 252 and the final grazing capacity established for 1937, where available, the county committee shall recommend in line 17, section II, for approval by the State committee, a grazing capacity for the ranch. The grazing capacity of the ranch shall be established on the basis of the normal, not the temporary, grazing capacity of the ranch. The grazing capacities for all of the ranches in the county thus established shall be so adjusted that they do not exceed the grazing capacity for the county established by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration for 1938.

The county committee shall enter in column (E), section III of Form 252, such of the practices both recommended by the range inspector and requested by the operator of the ranch as it determines



will tend to effectuate the purposes of the 1938 Range Conservation Program. Such practices shall be entered in the appropriate spaces if initiated on or after January 1, 1938, and approved by the county committee prior to their being initiated, regardless of whether Form 252 was executed prior to their institution. In determining whether the practices, the approval of which has been requested, will tend to effectuate the purposes of the program the county committee shall give consideration to the effect of the practices in checking the depletion of and in rebuilding the vegetative cover of range land, in preventing erosion, and in controlling stream flow. In approving any practice the county committee shall indicate on the map of the ranch the location and the extent of the practices which are approved. After the county committee has made final adjustments in section II, line 18, columns (E) and (F), and the Form 252 is found to be complete and correct, one member of the county committee should execute the certificate of county committee at the end of section IV. After the certificate of county committee has been executed, one copy of the completed Form 252 shall be forwarded to the operator, one copy retained in the county office, and one copy forwarded with the transmittal sheet to the State office. If, after Form 252 has been executed, it is found that, due to unforeseen conditions, practices cannot be carried out exactly as approved by the county committee, such practices may be changed for others if approved by the county committee, such approval being signified by the approval of the county committee on the application for payment.

**SEC. V. Serial number.**—The 1938 serial number for each ranch for which a serial number was established under the 1937 Range Conservation Program shall be the same as the 1937 serial number provided the ranch is identical with the ranch to which the 1937 number applied.

The 1938 serial numbers for those ranches which did not have 1937 serial numbers and the serial numbers of those ranches for which a serial number was assigned in 1937 and which have been combined or subdivided since the 1937 serial number was assigned shall be in numerical sequence immediately following the series of 1937 numbers. All ranch serial numbers shall be preceded by the letter R.

**SEC. VI. Appeals.**—Any person who is dissatisfied with any recommendation or determination of the county committee in connection with the 1938 Range Conservation Program with respect to any of the following for any ranching unit in which he has an interest may file an appeal in accordance with the provisions of SRM-213: (a) Eligibility to file an application for payment; (b) grazing capacity established for the range land in such ranch, or (c) any other matter affecting the right to or the amount of his payment with respect to the ranching unit.

Issued May 12, 1938, with the approval of the Administrator and the undersigned.

*J. W. Ruggan*

*Director, Southern Division,  
Agricultural Adjustment Administration.*